

Message Text

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62

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----- 076989

P R 012243Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (SCHLESINGER, JAMES) CH, US

SUBJECT: SCHLESINGER VISIT

1. FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES SCHLESINGER WILL BE VISITING THE PRC SEPTEMBER 6-23 AT THE INVITATION OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. MEMBERS OF THE SCHLESINGER PARTY INCLUDE EDWARD LUTTWAK (SCHOOL OF ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY), FRANCIS WEST (FORMER SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO DR. SCHLESINGER), DR. WILLIAM WHITSON (CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS), CHARLES BENOI; (CHINESE LINGUIST), AND RICHARD PERLE (PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS).

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2. SCHLESINGER PARTY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE PRESS: JOSEPH KRAFT, JERRY SCHECTER, ROBERT BARTLEY (EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR OF THE WALL STREET JOURNAL), LLOYD SHEARER (PARADE MAGAZINE) AND WIFE, AND BEN WATTENBERG (DEMOGRAPHER, POLITICAL ANALYST).

3. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT SCHLESINGER ITINERARY IN THE PRC WILL INCLUDE PEKING, HU-HO-HAO-T'E, URUMCHI, I-NING, LHASA, CHENG TU, KWEILIN, CHANGSHA, CHINGKANGSHAN, AND SHANGHAI. ALTHOUGH THE GROUP IS NOW SCHEDULED TO DEPART THE PRC FROM SHANGHAI ON SEPTEMBER 23, THE CHINESE HAVE LEFT OPEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GROUP WILL RETURN TO PEKING AT THE END OF THE TRIP FOR SEVERAL MORE DAYS. BEN WATTENBERG MAY NEED TO LEAVE THE PRC ON SEPTEMBER 16 BEFORE THE REST OF THE GROUP. (COAUTHOR, WITH RICHARD SCAMMON, OF "THE REAL MAJORITY" WATTENBERG WOULD BE WILLING, IF THERE'S TIME, TO MEET WITH USLO STAFF--AND POSSIBLY DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES ALSO--TO DISCUSS US DOMESTIC ISSUES.)

4. SCHLESINGER PARTY IS TRAVELING IN PRIVATE CAPACITY BUT TWO MEMBERS OF GROUP (WHITSON AND PERLE) ARE USG EMPLOYEES. SOME MEMBERS HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SEPARATE MESSAGES. LUTTWAK IS HANDLING ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS.

5. USLO ROLE WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL.
ROBINSON

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